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OLC 70-0856

7 December 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation with Mr. [] CI Staff,
re []

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25X1C

1. Today I called Mr. [] to remind him of our earlier exchanges regarding the repeated request of Jay Sourwine, Chief Counsel, Senate Internal Security Subcommittee, for first claim to access to [] at such time [] could be made available. I told Mr. [] of the long established understanding between the Agency and the Senate and House Internal Security Subcommittees respectively that [] would be made available to these Subcommittees on a first come-first serve basis. I said that in the light of Mr. Sourwine's latest request (18 September 1970), which we said we could not respond to, []

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2. Mr. [] questioned the necessity for taking any action at this time, and I replied that we felt we should sooner or later explain to Sourwine either that we would honor his request when the time was appropriate, [] or that we could give no such assurance indicating that we had no such control. In the latter event, presumably Sourwine would feel free to seek access to [] without going through the Agency.

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[] suggested that I state my case in a memorandum which could be shown to Mr. Angleton.

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4. I said I would be glad to talk to Mr. Angleton, but didn't see much sense in writing a lot of memos back and forth. I said that if there was a real danger that [redacted] [redacted] this could create something of a flap with the Subcommittee, and possibly the Director should be forewarned of this risk.

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5. Mr. [redacted] didn't think it necessary to take the matter up with the Director, [redacted] [redacted]

[redacted] I said that if we had reasonable assurance that we would get some advance warning, we could wait and decide how to handle Sourwine's request at that time. Mr. [redacted] thought this was a reasonable suggestion and we agreed to sit tight, with the understanding that OLC would be immediately notified if CI had any indication that [redacted]

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6. I later mentioned the matter to the Director who agrees that it would be a serious mistake to make [redacted] available to the Committee at this time.

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[redacted]
[redacted]
JOHN M. MAURY
Legislative Counsel

Distribution:

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1 - CI Staff

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